

Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /004 R

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY LONDON

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FOR CLAPPIN PASS GRIP

FOLL REPEAT GENEVA 1120 ACTION SECSTATE INFO AMEMBASSY BERN 1537

AMEMBASSY MADRID 780 AMEMBASSY MEXICO 620

QUOTE:

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE GENEVA 1120

PASSPARKER, DEPT OF COMMERCE (USTS)

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: AORG OCON WTO

SUBJECT: MADRID CHOSEN AS SITE OF FIRST WTO ASSEMBLY; TENTATIVE

DATES: MAY 12-31

REF: STATE 34018

1. WTO SYG LONATI INFORMED MISSION OFFICER THAT MAJORITY OF WTO MEMBERS CONSULTED --BOTH IN WRITING AND IN PERSON--SINCE JANUARY FAVORED MADRID AS SITE OF FIRST WTO ASSEMBLY AND THAT HE HAD SO INFORMED BOTH THE SPANISH AND MEXICAN MISSIONS HERE ON FEB 19.

2. SPANISH STATED THAT EARLIERST DATE THEY COULD OFFER TO HOST

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ASSEMBLY WOULD BE MAY 12. ACCORDINGLY LONAIT IS ASKING SPANISH

TO PREPARE FOR TWO WEEK CONFERENCE BEGINNING MAY 12 WITH OPTION
OF PROLONGATION FOR A THIRD WEEK.

3. LONATI SAID SPANISH PROMISED TO CONFIRM ABOVE DATES
SHORTLY AND IN MEANWHILE HE IS GOING AHEAD WITH PREPARATIONS
FOR CONVENING ASSEMBLY.

4. MISSION OFFICER, AS PER REFTTEL, REITERATED US REGRET THAT
SYG HAD BEEN UNABLE TO FOLLOW STATUTORY PROVISION THAT
GENERAL ASSEMBLY BE HELD IN GENEVA AND STATED USG WAS
NEUTRAL VIS-A-VIS CHOICE OF EITHER MEXICO CITY OR MADRID
AS SITE FOR FIRST ASSEMBLY. MISSION OFFICER ALSO CONVEYED
THIS NEUTRALITY RE ASSEMBLY SITE TO OTHER GENEVA MISSIONS
(FRG, CANADA) THAT ENQUIRED RE US POSITION ON SUBJECT.

5. COMMENT: USG MUST NOW DECIDE WHETHER IT INTENDS TO UTILIZE
PROVISIONS OF ARTICLE 42 OF WTO STATUTES IN ORDER TO PARTICIPATE
IN FUNDAMENTAL DECISION MAKING OF FIRST ASSEMBLY.
DALE

UNQUOTE: KISSINGER

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